

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6+0 wherein the step of co-incubation of the amyloid protein with heparan sulfate is in distilled water or Tris-buffered saline (pH 7.0-7.4).

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for the formation of particular amyloid plaques, the method comprising *in vitro* co-incubation of beta-amyloid protein 1-40 (SEQ ID NO: 1) for at least 3-7 days at 30-45°C with heparan sulfate, whereby spherical or compact shaped amyloid plaques are formed that demonstrate a Maltese-cross pattern when stained with Congo red and viewed under polarized light, and an amyloid star appearance when viewed by transmission electron microscopy, and further  
The method of claim 10 wherein the co-incubation is at a molar ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate within a range of 1:0.5 to 1:100.

7. (Previously amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the molar ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate is about 1:5.

8. (Currently amended) A method for the formation of particular amyloid plaques, the method comprising *in vitro* co-incubation of beta-amyloid protein 1-40 (SEQ ID NO: 1) for at least 3-7 days at 30-45°C with heparan sulfate, whereby spherical or compact shaped amyloid plaques are formed that demonstrate a Maltese-cross pattern when stained with Congo red and viewed under polarized light, and an amyloid star appearance when viewed by transmission electron microscopy, and further  
The method of claim 10 wherein the co-incubation is at a weight ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate within a range of 1:0.4 to 1:100.

9. (Previously amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the weight ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate is about 1:8 or 1:16.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6+0 wherein the step of co-incubation has a duration of about 7 days.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6+0 wherein the step of co-incubation of the beta-amyloid protein with heparan sulfate occurs at about 37°C.

16-18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of co-incubation of the amyloid protein with heparan sulfate is in distilled water or Tris-buffered saline (pH 7.0-7.4).

20. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of co-incubation has a duration of about 7 days.

21. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of co-incubation of the beta-amyloid protein with heparan sulfate occurs at about 37°C.